THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The representations with regard to inclusion/exclusion of bulk drugs (including Glybenclamide) under DPCO, 1987 are under examination of Government.

Difference between film coated and plain tablets of Metranidazole 400 mfl.

763. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a difference in film coated tablets nad plain tablets of Metranidazole 400 mg.;

(b) what was the extra amount allowed for film coated Tablets of this product and what are the norms for the same;

(c) whether it is also a fact that prices of Infusions based on Metranidazole are being overcharged;

(d) i fso, whether his Ministry have come across any such instances;

(e) if so, what are the names of the products, price fixed and charged for each; and

(f) since when the price is being overcharged on each product and what action has been taken so far against the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under DPCO, 1987, the conversion cost allowed for all plain tablets (per 1000, large 351 mg. to 600 mg.) is Rs. 725 whereas for all coated tablets of the similar strength and number, it is Rs. 10.87.

(c) to (f) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reivew of Packing material costs

764. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BICP have been asked to review the Packing material costs;

(b) if so, what was the terms of reference of such review;

(c) whether it is also a fact that BICP have sent its findings; and

(d) what is the present packing material cost being allowed for fixing the prices of formulations and what are the basis on which it is being allowed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) BICP was requested to study the packing material costs afresh and give its recommendations. BICP has furnished its recommendations.

(d) The packing material costs presently allowed are on the basis of ceilings fixed on the basis of a BICP study and different celings have been fixed as internal guideline for avrious packing materials according to packing requirements.

Production of drugs from Intermediate and Penultimate stages

765. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of drugs being produced in the country from Intermediate and Penultimate stages for the last more than three years;

(b) what are the names of those companies and since when each drug is being produced and what was the production of each during the last three years, yearwise;

(c) what were the recommendations of Hathi Committee on the production of drugs from penultimate and intermediate stages;

(d) what are the details of Government policy on this issue;